

Middlesex/Union Counties ALB Infestation

A total of 157 high-risk host trees in residential areas need to be removed from the City of Linden as the result of five new infested trees found in late-July and early August. In addition, 33 more high-risk host trees will be removed from the Rosehill Cemetery.

The recent finds of five new infested trees, which include maples, birches and elms in the southeast section of Linden, resulted in an expansion of the quarantine zone. Because they all had egg sites but no exit holes, the zone expansion was by 1/8 of a mile. The expansion does not take the quarantine zone into any new municipalities. The total size of the expanded zone is approximately 16.5 square miles.

One tree that had old eggs sites dating back to last year has been taken down. The four infested trees still standing will be taken down after the first hard frost to avoid dispersing any adult beetles that may be in them to other trees.

To date, more than 10,550 trees have been removed in the Middlesex County towns of Carteret and Woodbridge and the Union county towns of Rahway and Linden. Trees are being replaced on a one-for-one basis.

The number of trees removed from a wooded area of the Linden Landfill increased from about 650 to about 2,800 because surveyors did not initially count seedlings and younger trees, only those they could climb.

Jersey City/Hoboken Quarantine Area

Personnel from the Jersey City/Hoboken quarantine area have been assisting the Middlesex/Union team due to the five new tree finds. As of September 3, a total of 2,520 trees have been surveyed in 2005 with no signs of the ALB detected. In addition, 898 trees have been treated this year with imidacloprid.